Afghanistan, etc. are the major countries to which tea is exported in bulk quantities.

(c) Tea exports in 1992-93 are expected to be around 220 million kgs.

Over-Drafts Facilities to Grain Merchants

1736. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Administration has approached the Union Government to restrict overdraft facilities to grain merchants; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The advances granted against stocks of paddy/rice, wheat, pulses and other foodgrains, namely jowar, bajra, maize, barley, ragi, etc., are subject to the provisions of selective credit control of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI adopts a restrictive credit policy in respect of such traders by stipulating a high margin of 75% in respect of foodgrains at present (with an exception of 60% in respect of wheat) and allowing the traders to maintain a law inventory level. Under the Selective credit control policy, the quantum of credit is controlled by fixing the minimum margin for lending and ceilings on the levels of credit. The policy in this regard is modified form time to time by RBI in such a manner as is considered appropriate to meet particular situations or to achieve the desired directional flow of credit.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance by BIFR to Sick Industrial Units

1737. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction; and

(b) the names of those sick industries in each State to whom the assistance has been provided by BIFR during each of the last three years and to whom it is proposed to be provided during the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The objective of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) set up under the sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, is to expeditiously revive and rehabilitate potentially viable sick industrial companies and to salvage the productive assets of the non-viable sick units through their liquidation.

(b) BIFR has reported that assistance for the revival of sick industrial companies is extended by different agencies like banks, financial institutions and Central and State Government. No direct financial assistance is provided for this purpose by BIFR.

[*English*]

Setting UP of Cotton/Cotton Yarn Mills in Cooperative Sector in Bihar

1939. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton yarn mills under co-operative sector in Bihar;

(b) whether these mills are able to fulfill the demands of handloom and powerloom units;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up new cotton/cotton yarn mills in Jehanabad, Nalanda and Gaya districts of Bihar;

(d) if so, the number of mills likely to set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan, district-wise; and

(e) the time by which these mills are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As on 31st January, 1992 there are three Cooperative Spinning Yarn Mills in Bihar.

(b) Since there are no restrictions of inter-state movement of yarn, demands of yarn by handloom and powerloom sectors are met out of the production of all the spinning mills in the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

World Bank Loan for Chhotanagpur Region

1740. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FIANACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide aid for Chhotanagpur region in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the scheme of which the loan is likely to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The World Bank is presently involved in the preparation of the Bihar Plateau Development Project covering 9 districts in the tribal sub-plan area of the State. The Project is expected to strengthen the basic rural infrastructure for agricultural development, and will also encourage further people's involvement in development planning and project implementation. Details regarding the quantum of assistance and schemes to be implemented would be known only after the project is finalised.

[*English*]

Issue of Global Bonds to Indian Companies

1741. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian Companies which have sought permission to float bonds in the overseas market to mobilise resources;

(b) whether the Government have permitted some companies to issue global bonds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The following companies have sought permission to float bonds in the overseas market to mobilise resources:

(i) Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd.